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ABSTRACT

This report examines the performance of students transferring from Austin Community College (ACC) (Texas) to one of three four-year institutions: the University of Texas (UT) at Austin, Southwest Texas State University (SWTSU), and Texas A&M University (TAMU) in College Station. The majority of ACC students (63%) transfer to UT. On average, the students do well there in their first semester. Those entering UT in 1996 earned a first fall semester overall average GPA of 2.78 on a four-point grading scale. Students performed better in English and foreign languages than in social sciences, math, and science. Compared with all transfer students at UT, ACC students performed slightly less well overall and by discipline. At SWTSU, which enrolls about 20 percent of ACC's transfer students each year, overall average GPA for ACC students from 1991 to 1997 was 2.5--slightly higher than the average GPA for all community college transfer students. Finally, TAMU overall GPAs from 1995 to 1997 indicate that ACC transfer students perform as well as or better than other transfer students. However, TAMU's system of calculating overall GPAs differs from that of UT and SWTSU. Appended is table of data used to calculate these TAMU GPAs. (EMH)

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Austin Community College
Transfer Student Performance Report
Spring 1999

ED 448 818

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Austin Community College Transfer Student Performance Report
Spring 1999

In April, 1995, the Texas Association of Junior and Community College Instructional Administrators (TAJCCIA) recommended Texas community colleges, "collect and maintain data to identify specific problems and improve results of student transfer from two-year to four-year colleges."(*Transfer Success Work Group Report, April, 1995.)*
In response to that recommendation, a previous report examined the transfer rate of Austin Community College this report provides information on the performance of students at the transfer institution. It attempts to answer the question:

How Successful are ACC Transfer Students at the Four-Year Institution?

Transfer student performance data available from the institutions to which ACC students transfer varies from institution to institution. Some institutions have provided ACC with end of the first year GPAs, while others have provided the number and percent of ACC transfer students in "good standing" at the end of an academic year. Some have provided comparisons with other transfer students, GPAs in target courses, and some provide no data at all. Thus, it is difficult to compose a comprehensive picture of ACC transfer student performance at all transfer institutions. What follows are data that *are* available from the individual institutions in which most ACC transfer students enroll. These performance data will be presented for each institution. In this report, all students previously enrolled at ACC and currently (as of the report data date) enrolled in the transfer institution are "transfer students."

The University of Texas at Austin (UT) enrolls the majority, (63%) of ACC's transfer students. Data from UT indicate, on average, ACC transfer students do well in their first semester. ACC students entering UT in 1996 earned a first fall semester overall average GPA of 2.78 on a four point grading scale; those entering UT in 1994 earned an overall average GPA of 2.75. The University also calculated a GPA for each of five discipline areas: English, math, science, foreign language and social sciences. For Fall 1996, ACC transfer student average GPAs by discipline indicate ACC students performed better in English (2.66) and foreign language (2.51) than in social sciences (2.14), math (2.13), and science (2.02). For 1994, the same pattern was apparent: English (2.70) and foreign language (2.59) and social sciences (2.13), math (2.13), and science (2.02). From 1994 to 1996, discipline GPAs decreased in English, foreign language, and social science, but remained the same for math and science.

Both in Fall 1996 and Fall 1994, compared to all students transferring to the University of Texas at Austin, including students from other universities and those from community colleges, ACC students performed only slightly less well overall and in each discipline. Table 1 displays these data for ACC and all transfer students.

Table 1: First Fall Semester Performance of ACC Transfer Students at The University of Texas

University of Texas at Austin	Enrolled Summer or Fall 1996		Enrolled Summer or Fall 1994	
	ACC N=670	All Transfers N=2,020	ACC N=625	All Transfers N=1,882
Average UT GPA	2.78	2.80	2.75	2.75
Average GPA by Discipline:				
English	2.66	2.79	2.70	2.69
Math	2.13	2.26	2.13	2.23
Science	2.02	2.12	2.02	2.15
Foreign Language	2.51	2.63	2.59	2.59
Social Sciences	2.14	2.23	2.13	2.21

Source: *The University of Texas First Year Academic Report*, 9/16/98 and 9/24/96

Southwest Texas State University (SWTSU) enrolls about 20 percent of ACC's transfer students each year. Data provided by SWTSU indicate that over the last seven years, ACC students have performed well their first fall semester at SWTSU, maintaining an overall average GPA that hovers at 2.50 on a four point scale. Additionally, for each of those years, compared to students transferring from all other community colleges, the average GPA for ACC Transfer Students has been slightly higher than the average GPA for All Community College Transfer Students. Table 2 displays these data.

Table 2: First Fall Semester Performance of ACC Transfer Students to Southwest Texas State University

First Fall Semester	ACC Transfer Students		All Community College Transfer Students	
	N	Average GPA	N	Average GPA
1997	552	2.50	1,621	2.45
1996	429	2.51	1,495	2.46
1995	463	2.52	1,457	2.43
1994	439	2.46	1,454	2.39
1993	428	2.54	1,362	2.44
1992	404	2.52	1,236	2.45
1991	522	2.36	1,623	2.32

Source: *Performance of New Transfer Students from Texas 2-year Institutions Pursuing Their First Undergraduate Degree at Southwest Texas State University Reports*, 1991-1997

Texas A&M University (TAMU) in College Station provides data on the performance of students who transfer there from ACC in a different and rather interesting format. Rather than an overall GPA, TAMU links a "foundation" course taken at the institution from which students transfer with its "target" course taken at TAMU, then calculates an average GPA for the *course* for ACC transfer students, all transfer students,

and all "native" students (those who took both the foundation and target courses at TAMU). See Attachment 1.

This type of performance data is useful particularly to faculty, for examining indications of strengths and weaknesses of their programs. However, to be able to make observations of ACC transfer students' overall performance at TAMU, an overall average GPA must be calculated from the course-specific data. The resulting overall average GPA's for academic year 1995-1997 indicate ACC students do well in TAMU "target" courses, in fact performing as well as, or better than, other transfer students overall in "target" courses. As would be expected, native students perform slightly better than either of the previously mentioned sub-groups. Table 3 displays these data.

Table 3: Overall GPAs for Texas A&M University Target Courses

Report Year	ACC Transfer Students		All Transfer Students		Native TAMU Students	
	N	GPA	N	GPA	N	GPA
1997	382	2.4	15,273	2.4	46,428	2.6
1996	439	2.5	16,013	2.3	48,010	2.6
1995	332	2.5	12,005	2.3	37,329	2.6

Source: TAMU Foundation Course Tracking Reports, 1995-1997

Summary:

ACC's students who transfer to universities do well, earning first fall semester overall GPAs that range from 2.4 to 2.8 in a four point system. ACC transfer students perform as well as, or better than, other transfer students from community colleges and from universities.

Attachment 1:
TAMU Foundation Course Tracking

TAMU Target Course	ACC Foundation Course	All Enrolled N	All Enrolled GPA	TAMU N	TAMU GPA	All Transfers N	All Transfers GPA	ACC Transfers N	ACC Transfers GPA
TAMU Foundation Course Tracking Data, 1997									
ACCT 230 Intro Accounting	ACC 1623	2981	2.6	2706	2.7	275	2.3	10	1.6
ACCT 315 ACCT in Corp Environ	ACC 1633	570	2.5	410	2.6	160	2.2	7	2.1
ACCT 327 Intermediate Acct	ACC1633	837	2.5	694	2.6	143	2.2	6	2.3
ACCT 328 Intermediate Acct	ACC 1633	691	2.4	576	2.5	115	2.1	4	2.8
BANA 303 Statistical Methods	MTH 1643	3304	2.8	2498	2.9	806	2.5	13	2.7
COSC 329 Structural Systems I	MTH 1643	369	2.6	300	2.6	69	2.4	1	0.0
COSC 329 Structural Systems I	MTH 1674	311	2.6	217	2.6	94	2.4	2	1.0
COSC 329 Structural Systems I	MTH 1854	176	2.7	142	2.7	34	2.7	2	1.5
FINC 341 Business Finance	MTH 1674	2551	2.4	1878	2.4	673	2.2	10	3.0
MATH 141 Business Math I	MTH 1743	966	2	280	1.8	686	2.1	11	1.9
MATH 142 Business Math II	MTH 1643	3364	2.3	2983	2.4	381	1.9	4	1.0
MATH 151 Engineering Math I	MTH 1753	149	1.7	52	1.3	97	2.0	2	3.0
MATH 152 Engineering Math II	MTH 1854	2350	2.3	2208	2.3	142	1.7	3	1.7
MATH 166 Top. in Contemp. Math II	MTH 1743	337	2	70	1.8	267	2.1	4	1.3
MATH 171 Analytic Geom & Calc	MTH 1753	15	2.3	2	2.0	13	2.4	1	1.0
MATH 253 Engineering Math III	MTH 1864	535	2.7	506	2.8	29	2.1	2	3.0
MATH 308 Differential Equations	MTH 2164	545	2.6	416	2.7	129	2.3	5	2.6
MGMT 363 The Mgmt Process	MTH 1674	3335	2.6	2416	2.7	919	2.5	14	3.0
MKTG 321 Marketing	MTH 1674	3232	2.6	2314	2.6	918	2.4	12	2.3
PHYS 218 Mechanics	MTH 1854	1908	2.3	1708	2.3	200	2.0	6	2.3
PHYS 219 Electricity	MTH 1864	176	2.2	144	2.3	32	2.0	1	3.0
CHEM 102 Fund Chem II	CHM 1634	3025	2.5	2825	2.5	200	2.3	6	2.3
CHEM 227 Organic Chem I	CHM 1644	2256	2.5	1924	2.5	332	2.2	3	3.3
CHEM 228 Organic Chemistry II	CHM 2614	2184	2.5	2121	2.5	63	2.4	2	2.0
GEOL 203 Mineralogy	CHM 1644	29	2.4	20	2.6	9	2.2	1	4.0
GEOL 304 Ign. & Meta. Petrology	CHM 1644	32	2.3	24	2.2	8	2.4	1	1.0
COSC 329 Structural Systems I	PHY 1614	402	2.6	203	2.6	199	2.6	11	2.4
CVEN 205 Engr Mech of Materials	PHY 2633	560	2.7	495	2.7	65	2.5	1	4.0
MEEN 212 Engineering Mech I	PHY 2614	810	2.7	662	2.7	148	2.6	1	4.0

Source: TAMU Foundation Course Tracking Report, October 1997

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TAMU Foundation Course Tracking

TAMU Target Course	ACC Foundation Course	All Enrolled		TAMU		All Transfers		ACC Transfers	
		N	GPA	N	GPA	N	GPA	N	GPA
MEEN 213 Engineering Mech II	PHY 2633	399	2.5	379	2.5	20	2.8	1	4.0
PHYS 208 Electricity and Optics	PHY 2614	1611	2.4	1430	2.5	181	2.2	7	2.3
PHYS 219 Electricity	PHY 2614	254	2.3	229	2.4	25	1.8	2	3.0
ECON 203 Prin of Economics	ECO 1623	3532	2.8	3207	2.8	325	2.7	20	2.5
FINC 341 Business Finance	ECO 1633	3216	2.4	1850	2.5	1366	2.3	44	2.3
MGMT 363 The Mgmt Process	ECO 1633	3702	2.7	2068	2.8	1634	2.6	50	2.7
MKTG 321 Marketing	ECO 1633	4126	2.6	2377	2.7	1749	2.5	55	2.7
ENGL 210 Scientific & Tech Writing	ENG 1613&1623	2757	3.4	1177	3.4	1580	3.4	35	3.4
ENGL 301 Technical Writing	ENG 1613&1623	1577	3	638	3	939	3	10	2.9
FREN 102 Beginning French II	FRN 1615	278	3.2	265	3.2	13	2.5	1	2.0
FREN 201 Intermediate French I	FRN 1625	192	2.8	181	2.8	11	2.1	1	2.0
FREN 202 Intermediate French II	FRN 2613	233	2.9	225	2.9	8	3	1	3.0
SPAN 102 Beginning Spanish II	SPN 1615	911	2.6	819	2.6	92	2.1	3	2.7
SPAN 201 Intermediate Spanish I	SPN 1625	574	2.6	467	2.6	107	2.3	4	2.5
GERM 102 Beginning German II	GER 1615	191	3	179	3	12	2.4	1	2.0
GERM 202 Intermediate German II	GER 2613	148	2.8	143	2.7	5	3.2	1	4.0

Source: TAMU Foundation Course Tracking Report, October 1997

Attachment 1:
TAMU Foundation Course Tracking

TAMU Target Course	ACC Foundation Course	All Enrolled		TAMU		All Transfers		ACC Transfers	
		N	GPA	N	GPA	N	GPA	N	GPA
TAMU Foundation Course Tracking Data, 1996									
ACCT 230 Intro Accounting	ACC 1623	2352	2.6	2139	2.6	213	2.1	11	1.9
ACCT 315 ACCT in Corp Environ	ACC 1633	464	2.4	337	2.5	127	2.1	6	2.5
ACCT 327 Intermediate Acct	ACC1633	851	2.5	685	2.6	166	2.0	6	2.2
ACCT 328 Intermediate Acct	ACC 1633	737	2.4	587	2.5	150	2.0	7	2.6
BANA 303 Statistical Methods	MTH 1643	2988	2.5	2319	2.6	669	2.2	9	2.2
COSC 329 Structural Systems I	MTH 1643	256	2.5	198	2.6	58	2.2	1	0.0
COSC 329 Structural Systems I	MTH 1674	211	2.5	150	2.6	61	2.3	3	2.3
COSC 329 Structural Systems I	MTH 1854	115	2.9	82	2.8	33	2.9	2	2.5
FINC 341 Business Finance	MTH 1674	2348	2.4	1700	2.4	648	2.2	17	2.4
MATH 141 Business Math I	MTH 1743	1113	2.1	326	1.9	787	2.1	19	1.8
MATH 142 Business Math II	MTH 1643	3704	2.4	3319	2.5	385	2.0	7	2.1
MATH 151 Engineering Math I	MTH 1753	175	1.7	62	1.6	113	1.7	3	3.3
MATH 152 Engineering Math II	MTH 1854	2182	2.3	2035	2.3	147	1.6	2	2.0
MATH 166 Top. in Contemp. Math II	MTH 1743	452	2.1	100	2.0	352	2.2	11	2.0
MATH 253 Engineering Math III	MTH 1864	420	2.8	394	2.9	26	2.5	1	4.0
MATH 308 Differential Equations	MTH 2164	436	2.6	322	2.6	114	2.5	4	2.3
MGMT 363 The Mgmt Process	MTH 1674	2983	2.7	2163	2.7	820	2.5	22	2.7
MKTG 321 Marketing	MTH 1674	3019	2.6	2144	2.7	875	2.5	18	2.8
PHYS 218 Mechanics	MTH 1854	2111	2.2	1923	2.2	188	2.0	7	2.3
PHYS 219 Electricity	MTH 1864	395	2.3	338	2.3	57	2.3	3	3.7
CHEM 102 Fund Chem II	CHM 1634	4580	2.5	4298	2.5	282	2.1	9	2.3
CHEM 227 Organic Chem I	CHM 1644	2281	2.4	1910	2.4	371	2.1	1	2.0
CHEM 228 Organic Chem II	CHM 2614	2039	2.4	1979	2.4	60	2.1	4	2.5
GEOL 203 Mineralogy	CHM 1644	40	2.6	30	2.6	10	2.4	2	3.0
GEOL 303 Optical Mineralogy	CHM 1644	36	2.7	24	2.9	12	2.3	1	2.0
GEOL 304 Ign. & Meta. Petrology	CHM 1644	30	1.9	23	2.0	7	1.7	1	1.0
COSC 329 Structural Systems I	PHY 1614	309	2.6	149	2.7	160	2.5	10	2.9
CVEN 205 Engr Mech of Materials	PHY 2633	796	2.7	715	2.7	81	2.3	3	2.7
MEEN 212 Engineering Mech I	PHY 2614	1011	2.3	884	2.4	127	2.1	3	1.0

Source: TAMU Foundation Course Tracking Report, October 1996

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TAMU Foundation Course Tracking

TAMU Target Course	ACC Foundation Course	All Enrolled		TAMU		All Transfers		ACC Transfers	
		N	GPA	N	GPA	N	GPA	N	GPA
MEEN 213 Engineering Mech II	PHY 2633	502	2.3	481	2.3	21	2.2	1	4.0
METR 335 Atmos Thermodynamics	PHY 2624	48	3.8	39	3.8	9	3.9	1	4.0
PHYS 202 College Physics	PHY 1614	1305	2.6	1232	2.6	73	2.0	6	1.5
PHYS 208 Electricity and Optics	PHY 2614	1782	2.5	1613	2.5	169	2.3	5	2.2
PHYS 219 Electricity	PHY 2614	629	2.3	565	2.3	64	2.2	4	2.3
PHYS 221 Optics & Thermal Phys.	PHY 2624	82	2.7	70	2.7	12	2.5	1	3.0
ECON 203 Prin of Economics	ECO 1623	3254	2.6	2939	2.6	315	2.3	19	2.1
FINC 341 Business Finance	ECO 1633	2875	2.4	1643	2.5	1232	2.3	52	2.3
MGMT 363 The Mgmt Process	ECO 1633	3356	2.7	1812	2.8	1544	2.6	57	2.6
MKTG 321 Marketing	ECO 1633	3818	2.7	2145	2.7	1673	2.5	61	2.5
ENGL 210 Scientific & Tech Writing	ENG 1613&1623	2346	3.4	956	3.4	1390	3.4	11	3.5
ENGL 301 Technical Writing	ENG 1613&1623	3512	3.1	1339	3.1	2173	3.1	17	2.9
FREN 202 Intermediate French II	FRN 2613	206	2.9	198	2.9	8	3.0	1	4.0
SPAN 102 Beginning Spanish II	SPN 1615	1051	2.7	938	2.8	113	2.3	6	2.2
SPAN 201 Intermediate Spanish I	SPN 1625	675	2.6	562	2.7	113	2.3	3	3.0
GERM 202 Intermediate German II	GER 2613	148	2.9	143	2.9	5	3.2	1	4.0

Source: TAMU Foundation Course Tracking Report, October 1996

Attachment 1:
TAMU Foundation Course Tracking

TAMU Target Course	ACC Foundation Course	All Enrolled		TAMU		All Transfers		ACC Transfers	
		N	GPA	N	GPA	N	GPA	N	GPA
TAMU Foundation Course Tracking Data, 1995									
ACCT 230 Intro Accounting	ACC 1623	2000	2.6	1865	2.6	135	2.0	6	2.5
ACCT 315 ACCT in Corp Environ	ACC 1633	330	2.3	236	2.4	94	2.1	6	2.5
ACCT 327 Intermediate Acct	ACC1633	550	2.5	434	2.6	116	2.0	5	2.6
ACCT 328 Intermediate Acct	ACC 1633	628	2.4	507	2.5	121	2.1	4	2.5
BANA 303 Statistical Methods	MTH 1643	2165	2.4	1688	2.5	477	2.0	6	1.7
COSC 329 Structural Systems I	MTH 1674	147	2.5	106	2.6	41	2.2	3	2.3
COSC 329 Structural Systems I	MTH 1854	85	2.9	56	2.9	29	2.9	2	2.5
FINC 341 Business Finance	MTH 1674	1692	2.4	1216	2.5	476	2.2	12	2.3
MATH 141 Business Math I	MTH 1743	847	2.1	268	2	579	2.1	14	1.8
MATH 142 Business Math II	MTH 1643	3285	2.5	2986	2.5	299	2.0	7	2.0
MATH 151 Engineering Math I	MTH 1753	127	1.6	52	1.7	75	1.5	1	2.0
MATH 152 Engineering Math II	MTH 1854	1813	2.4	1719	2.5	94	1.7	2	2.0
MATH 166 Top. in Contemp. Math II	MTH 1743	335	2.2	80	2.1	255	2.2	9	2.2
MGMT 363 The Mgmt Process	MTH 1674	2295	2.7	1659	2.7	636	2.6	20	2.7
MKTG 321 Marketing	MTH 1674	2166	2.6	1513	2.7	653	2.5	16	2.8
PHYS 218 Mechanics	MTH 1854	1617	2.2	1487	2.2	130	2.1	4	2.8
PHYS 219 Electricity	MTH 1864	335	2.3	287	2.3	48	2.4	2	4.0
CHEM 102 Fund Chem II	CHM 1634	4251	2.5	4048	2.5	203	2.0	4	2.0
CHEM 227 Organic Chem I	CHM 1644	1435	2.3	1193	2.4	242	2.1	1	2.0
CHEM 228 Organic Chem II	CHM 2614	1785	2.4	1739	2.4	46	2.2	2	3.0
GEOL 203 Mineralogy	CHM 1644	23	2.6	17	2.6	6	2.5	1	2.0
GEOL 303 Optical Mineralogy	CHM 1644	36	2.7	24	2.9	12	2.3	1	2.0
COSC 329 Structural Systems I	PHY 1614	225	2.7	115	2.9	110	2.5	6	3.3
CVEN 205 Engr Mech of Materials	PHY 2633	652	2.7	598	2.7	54	2.1	3	2.0
MEEN 212 Engineering Mech I	PHY 2614	796	2.3	698	2.3	98	2.0	3	1.0
METR 335 Atmos Thermodynamics	PHY 2624	47	3.8	39	3.8	8	3.9	1	4.0
PHYS 202 College Physics	PHY 1614	1188	2.6	1134	2.6	54	1.9	6	1.5
PHYS 208 Electricity and Optics	PHY 2614	1314	2.4	1202	2.5	112	2.2	5	2.2
PHYS 219 Electricity	PHY 2614	549	2.4	494	2.4	55	2.2	2	1.5

Source: TAMU Foundation Course Tracking Report, October 1995

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TAMU Foundation Course Tracking

TAMU Target Course	ACC Foundation Course	All Enrolled		TAMU		All Transfers		ACC Transfers	
		N	GPA	N	GPA	N	GPA	N	GPA
PHYS 221 Optics & Thermal Phys.	PHY 2624	69	2.7	59	2.7	10	2.6	1	3.0
ECON 203 Prin of Economics	ECO 1623	2667	2.6	2437	2.6	230	2.3	15	2.2
FINC 341 Business Finance	ECO 1633	2046	2.5	1155	2.6	891	2.3	39	2.3
MGMT 363 The Mgmt Process	ECO 1633	2585	2.7	1385	2.8	1200	2.6	47	2.6
MKTG 321 Marketing	ECO 1633	2745	2.6	1514	2.7	1231	2.5	50	2.5
ENGL 210 Scientific & Tech Writing	ENG 1613&1623	1931	3.4	777	3.4	1154	3.4	8	3.5
ENGL 301 Tech Writing	ENG 1613&1623	3015	3.2	1136	3.2	1879	3.2	12	3.0
FREN 202 Intermediate French II	FRN 2613	159	2.9	152	2.9	7	3.0	1	4.0
SPAN 102 Beginning Spanish II	SPN 1615	893	2.8	816	2.8	77	2.3	4	2.3
SPAN 201 Intermediate Spanish I	SPN 1625	506	2.7	438	2.7	68	2.3	1	4.0

Source: TAMU Foundation Course Tracking Report, October 1995